REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Twenty-fifth Anniversary Meeting

OF THE

GENERAL CHRISTIAN

MISSIONARY CONVENTION,

HELD IN INDIANAPOLIS, IND.,

October 21, 22 and 23, 1873.

CINCINNATI:
BOSWORTH, CHASE & HALL.
1873.

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General Christian Missionary Convention.

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY.

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

THE GENERAL CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY CONVENTION assembled in the Christian Chapel, corner of Ohio and Delaware streets, Indianapolis, Indiana, at 7 o'clock, P. M., Tuesday, October 21, 1873, President R. M. Bishop in the chair.

Proceedings opened by singing hymn 592 of the Christian Hymn Book, and reading Mark, sixteenth chapter, followed by prayer by President W. K. Pendleton, of West Virginia. President Bishop then proceeded to read his Annual Address, which was listened to with profound attention.

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL ADDRESS.

Brethren of the General Missionary Convention:

It affords me great pleasure to greet you at another anniversary meeting. I do this the more heartily because I feel that we have now reached a point in our history when these meetings ought to have, and certainly will have, a wider and deeper significance than they have had in the past. And just here it may not be out of place to notice briefly the rise and progress of this Convention.

Twenty-four years ago our first experiment in general co-operative work was made. In October, 1849, a meeting was held in Cincinnati, the object of which was to take into consideration the whole subject of missionary work, and provide for a general system of co-operation. At this meeting the

"American Christian Missionary Society" was organized, and launched upon its mission. At that time, Alexander Campbell, who was its first President, was just sixty-one years old, and was in the prime of his most mature and vigorous manhood. The organization received his cordial sympathy, and he was ever afterward its steadfast friend and earnest advocate. As it has recently been asserted that he gave his consent to it only after he ceased to be responsible for his personal acts, it may be interesting to reproduce what he said of this first meeting more than sixteen years before his death. In his first article on the Christian Missionary Society he uses the following language, which evidently has no uncertain ring. He says:

"We are peculiarly gratified, to see with what unanimity, zeal and liberality the whole brotherhood assembled at the late Cincinnati Convention have entered into this great work of evangelizing—at least of contributing their aid to the conversion of the world. Having proved the power of a preached gospel at home, having seen its triumphs in fields of labor so numerous, so various and so extensive in our own land of Bibles, tracts and churches, we have at last extended our vision over other lands and Nations, and have felt their claims, and those of the King of Saints and of Nations upon us, to institute and establish missions, domestic and foreign. It is the glory, and I trust it will be long regarded as the glory of the first convention ever assembled of our brethren, that then and there they unanimously resolved in the name of the Lord, to institute, to organize and put in operation a society for spreading salvation and civilization over all lands, as far as the Lord will give them the means and the opportunity. Though at the beginning our efforts may be small, I doubt not that they will greatly increase, and that our success, both at home and abroad, will bear a just and reasonable ratio to our numbers, and the wealth, learning and talent which the Lord has bestowed upon us. I have at present only time to add, that, of all the other projects of the age, this is the chief. Bible societies, tract societies, and all other benevolent associations, are subordinate to this. This is an institution anterior and superior to all other Christian efforts. It was divinely ordained that the church, after the Apostles died, should convert the world. The church is God's own institution to evangelize, Christianize, and of course, to civilize and moralize the world. She is the golden candlestick in a benighted world—the light of the world, and the life of man. From her the word of the Lord is to go abroad among the Nations—to run and be glorified to the end of time. Such being her destiny,

the only question is, How can this be effected? A single community can not, in most cases, effect much beyond her immediate precincts. But by co operating with others, the work is every way practicable. A few churches may raise, equip and send abroad, one or more missionaries and their believing households, and thus plant an infant church even in a pagan land. We have abundant means, if we have willing minds and liberal hearts. But this point is not debatable, nor do we volunteer arguments when the question is decided.

"We have an organized Missionary Society—a Committee of Ways and Means—and desire no more at present, than to notice the foundation laid on which we may build a glorious superstructure."

These are the earnest words of one whose memory is dear to us all, and it is with inexpressible gratitude that we realize to-day, at least, somewhat of the hopes which he then cherished. The American Christian Missionary Society accomplished a good work, and had it not met with constant opposition from many influential brethren, we would be able to record to-day a number of well established foreign missions, instead of the two which were undertaken and abandoned.

For twenty years the opposition was waged with relentless energy, until at last, weary of the contest and with a view to secure united action, a committee was appointed at the St. Louis meeting of May, 1869, to prepare a plan for co-operation which would do away with the alleged objectionable features of the American Christian Missionary Society. This committee reported at the annual meeting of the Society at Louisville of the same year, and the report was adopted with a unanimity and hearty enthusiasm which gave promise of future harmonious co-operation. But, alas! our fond expectations were not realized. Some who signed the report, and who afterwards advocated its general acceptance by the brethren, have gone to their former opposition, and are now using all their influence to break down our work. In all this we have some very important practical lessons. I call your attention to the following:

First. That which is right in itself can not be permanently injured by opposition. Nothing is truer than that "truth is mighty and will prevail." Neither should men become discouraged who are battling for the right if they do not succeed at once. All great successes have been slowly developed. Rome was not made in a day. Hence, we can not hope for a full growth of our missionary organization until it has passed through the necessary stages of progress. Opposition is always a sign of growth, for no one thinks it worth while to oppose

that which is rapidly falling into decay. Let us accept then all the hard things that may be said about us as only evidences of our earnest endeavors to do the Lord's work.

Second. We had just as well make up our minds to the fact that we can not conciliate the men who have opposed our missionary organization. It has become too evident that nothing will satisfy them. They opposed the old plan because it was not a co-operation of churches, and now they oppose the new because it is. In fact, they mean to oppose us, no matter what plan we adopt, and I really believe that if we had no plan at all, they would then oppose us because we had none.

Third. I believe that this opposition can no longer hinder our work; certainly it ought not to do so. In years gone by our position was not favorable to meet successfully the men who opposed us, but now we hold every strategic point. *Then* the men who opposed us contributed largely to the education of our brotherhood; now these brethren are no longer oracles, especially upon the question of missionary organizations. We have nothing to say concerning their value in the church. We are quite willing to believe that they are doing a measure of good in their respective spheres. But we need no longer wait on their co-operation. If they will not help us, we must do the work ourselves. Every friend of the missionary cause must put on the whole armor and work for the conversion of the world, the union of the people of God and the upholding and development of the church.

Hoping that this meeting may contribute to these ends, I close my remarks that the Convention may at once enter upon the duties that have called us together.

On motion of W. F. Black, of Indiana, the following committees were appointed:

On Credentials.—Enos Campbell, Missouri; O. A. Bartholomew, District of Columbia; M. L. Streator, Pennsylvania.

On Order of Business.—W. F. Black, Indiana; R. Moffett, Ohio; J. Z. Taylor, Missouri; J. K. Cornell, Iowa; J. H. McCullough, Illinois.

While the Committee on Credentials were preparing their report, James Challen, of Ohio, being called upon by the President, addressed the Convention.

He said while the President was reading his interesting address, he was forcibly reminded of the first time he saw Alexander Campbell, in 1823 or 1824, and he gave a forcible

description of the powerful sermon he heard Campbell preach on that occasion. He paid a brief tribute to the distinguished pioneers of the Christian Church, and extolled the grandeur of the work which they commenced, and which the present Convention is carrying on. He rejoiced that Christianity is not founded upon any doctrine, theory or philosophy, but upon Christ.

The President announced that under the Constitution each State is entitled to two delegates, and one for every five thousand members of the church in the State; and that all life directors and life members of the American Christian Missionary Society are members of the Convention.

The Committee on Credentials reported that the following persons were entitled to seats in the Convention:

Colorado.—D. C. Stover.

District of Columbia.—O. A. Bartholomew.

New York.—A. B. Chamberlain, W. A. Belding, and F. M. Kibbey.

Massachusetts.—J. M. Atwater.

Illinois.—J. H. McCullough, Charles Rowe, J. C. Tully, S. M. Conner, Ira J. Chase, J. H. Garrison, J. L. Hayes, A. G. Lucas, L. H. Dowling, J. M. Hodgen, A. G. Tomlinson, N. S. Bastion, George Owen.

West Virginia.—A. E. Myers, W. K. Pendleton.

Pennsylvania.—M. L. Streator, W. Rowzee, life member, E. S. Rowzee, life director.

Ohio.—B. A. Hinsdale, R. Moffett, life member, W. T. Moore, life director, James Challen, life member, W. S. Dickinson, life director, A. I. Hobbs, R. M. Bishop, life director, J. C. Irvin, life member, T. D. Garvin, life director, Isaac Errett, F. M. Green, life member, Mrs. Ella B. Dickinson, life member, T. J. Murdock, life member, G. F. Hillman, life member, Mrs. R. M. Bishop, life member, E. C. Hillman, life member, R. R. Sloan, life director, J. J. Moss, R. H. Moss, J. W. Ingram.

Oregon.—L. L. Rowland.

Michigan.—G. J. Ellis, E. A. Lodge.

Kansas.—A. P. Stewart, W. J. Ford.

Indiana.—L. H. Jameson, W. B. F. Treat, W. F. Black, life director, P. M. Blankinship, life member, William Ireland, T. J. Clark, J. H. Bauserman, J. W. Lanham, J. C. Miller, N. J. Aylesworth, James Ford, Naomi Boaz, life director, B. K. Smith, Robert Denny, C. S. Bartholomew, life director, John Boggs, N. A. Walker, life member, D. R. Van Buskirk, life member, J. H. Hardin, E. S. Frazee, life member, J. Wickard, J. M. Land, life member, N. L. Burgess, life member, L. L. Carpenter, life director, R. L. Howe, life member, W. R. Jewel, L. Berry Smith, U. B. McKinsey, M. B. McKinsey.

Iowa.—J. K. Cornell, F. M. Bruner, G. T. Carpenter, H. H. Black.

Missouri.—Enos Campbell, J. Z. Taylor.

Kentucky.—W. A. Broadhurst, W. H. Lape, life director, Thomas Munnell, life director, W. B. Mooklar, life director, W. H. Hopson, J. W. McGarvey, J. A. Dickinson, life director, John S. Sweeney, B. F. Pullan, W. C. Holton, I. B. Grubbs, E. Goodwin, life director, John Shackelford, life member, L. L. Pinkerton, life member.—

Alabama.—William Brooks.

Australia.—Thomas Porter.

The Committee on Order of Business submitted the following partial report, which was adopted.

GENERAL ORDER.—8 to 9 o'clock, A. M., each day, Devotional Exercises.

7 to 7½ P. M. each day, Devotional Exercises.

Wednesday morning, October 22, at 9 A. M., Report of the Board.

2. Report of Committees.

7½ P. M., Address by Dr. W. H. Hopson, of Kentucky.

On motion of B. A. Hinsdale, of Ohio, the Convention adjourned by singing and benediction by B. K. Smith, of Indiana.

SECOND DAY.

MORNING SESSION.

Social service from 8 to 9 o'clock, led by W. A. Belding, o New York.

Minutes of first session read and approved.

The Report of the Board of Managers was read by the Corresponding Secretary, Thomas Munnell, of Kentucky.

REPORT OF THE BOARD.

BRETHREN:—Only five years have passed, since a resolution was privately and quietly formed to organize our entire brotherhood into one grand co-operative movement, and only four years since a general agreement was secured to this end. From that day till this, our growth has been gradual, healthy and permanent. The results of the first year's work were $37,000 and 3,340 added to the Lord; the next year realized $48,000 and 7,000 additions; the year following $55,000, 7,000 additions, 45 new churches, many Sunday school districts organized, and much other unchronicled good. But not being satisfied with these results, several States at the beginning of their last year, kindled with loftier purposes still, fixed upon certain definite sums which they would try to raise, far above what had been usual with them. Other States that fixed no definite amount have nevertheless done so well, that, taking all together the funds this year foot up seventy per cent. more than any previous year of our missionary history, with an amount of good done in various ways, proportional to the amount of means in our hands. Besides the tabular statements hereafter presented, we herewith subjoin a brief notice of the operations of each of

THE CO-OPERATING STATES.

NEBRASKA.

"The reports and statistics presented to our convention were generally of an encouraging character. Though the results of our year of labor have not been all that we desired, or that the sanguine among us may have anticipated, it is believed that much has been done tending to the permanent growth and prosperity of the church throughout the State. The amount raised for strictly missionary work is $370.50, though no small part of the $4,218.25 paid for regular, and the $564.90 paid for transient preaching, was raised as a consequence of missionary labor. The additions reported are 337; new organizations four. It was unanimously resolved that we would raise for missionary purposes one dollar for each member of the church in the State during the ensuing year. Delegates were appointed to the General Convention, and a resolution passed, requesting that body to hold its next session at some point west of the Mississippi river.

"Personally I have preached at 28 different points during the year, delivered 264 discourses, resulting in 111 accessions.

"R. C. BARROW, Secretary."

IOWA

Had last year 18 churches contributing, in full harmony with our general plan. This year they have 76, a gain of over four hundred per cent.

These churches raised this year $813 for missions, and by a careful use of this fund, our evangelists have rebuilt eight churches that had ceased to meet, and have assisted in locating four preachers in these destitute fields.

We have developed—in special collections taken by our evangelists, $760; in salaries that could not have been raised except by mission effort, $2,100; in building fund, $2,750.

To sum up our work: by expending $813 of missionary funds we have turned into channels for the advancement of the Master's work, $5,610; and added 386 members to our working force.

J. B. VAWTER, Secretary.

MISSOURI,

Four years ago, rose rapidly in effective co-operation during the two years of A. B. Jones' administration. Had the same management continued till now, the State might have been second to none. But the third year no State Secretary being in the field, the Districts as usual dilapidated, and the whole work suffered much. The last year J. J. Errett has filled that office, and has so far in one year resurrected the enterprise as to have secured the co-operation, more or less, of eleven out of the eighteen Districts. and established a tone and courage that promises much good. A greater permanency among the field officers is being secured. which is indispensable to our success. The State has raised $5,738.66. The additions seven hundred and forty-three, all of which was effected by nine preachers, and averages eighty-three to each A State Sunday school is organized with a State agent in the field, and $147.10 sent to the General Treasury. The last convention was a tonic to the whole State, and a large growth is looked for in the future.

NEW YORK

Has done well in the number of additions in the ratio of the money at command—two hundred and forty-three added with only $1,298.60. They have had fifty conversions from the Sunday school. Their Sunday school scholars have averaged about one dollar each for the missions. Dr. Belding is to be State Evangelist this year, who will not fail to raise their former average of about three thousand dollars per year. No dividends to the General Treasury. Paid for all purposes $40,000.

KENTUCKY

Has risen from about $6,000 of last year to $10,000 this year. Besides this there were about $10,000 raised and expended on missionary meeting houses which the Board did not consider strictly missionary work and did not count. Were this counted the State reached her $20,000; but without this there is evidence of a gratifying growth in the missionary spirit. The additions number seven hundred and forty-four. As an outgrowth of the organization a State movement is being now made to place a State Sunday school agent into the field. Dividends to the General Treasury one hundred dollars. Most of their Districts are at work, their treasuries nearly all out of debt, and financial prospects good.

OHIO,

The past year, gained six hundred and twenty-five accessions, assisted eighty-eight weak churches, organized four new ones, aided fourteen preachers in finding fields of labor, ten churches in obtaining preachers, and raised $23,350.23 for missionary funds. They have sent $1,230.80 to the General Treasury, and set out to raise $20,000 more the current year. The Board of this State considered all moneys raised by their organization whether for preaching or building churches as alike missionary and have so counted it. Eighteen of the twenty-five Districts of the State have Sunday school organizations.

GEORGIA.

The Disciples in this State are few in number, and only a part of these in favor of our organized effort in missions. Some are struggling manfully against difficulties, and need aid from our treasury to help support a State Evangelist. This would place them upon a surer footing, and make them feel they have the sympathy of the stronger States. With what little money they have raised for missions, two hundred and nine dollars, they have gained one hundred and thirty-six additions, the highest ratio reported by any State. If the General Treasury ever receives its legitimate dividends, its first work would be to aid in the support of State Evangelists in all such States as Georgia, and then their home forces could all be worked up to advantage, but it is useless to look for the highest development in the feebler States, unless we are able to extend them some assistance.

ILLINOIS.

Has done well under her very unfavorable circumstances. Her former State Secretary having resigned, a year ago, much was lost before Bro. Lindsey could get fairly to work, and much more before he could get the churches and Districts to start again—another proof of the necessity of permanency in such officers. Had their year been counted from March last, the time they got fairly to work, they would not have fallen much short of their proposed $25,000. As it was, they secured $16,274.40 pledged for the year, a great part of which was not due at the time of the convention. Owing to the lack of regular business habits in the Districts, a very incomplete report of money paid in was made at the convention, of which we shall soon know more, but the amount was about $6,000. But whether the money was much or little, there were 1,040 additions to the Lord, the highest missionary result ever attained in the State in any single year. They had twenty-six different men at work part of the time, and are moving with vigor in the Sunday school cause. No dividends to the General Treasury.

KANSAS

Was organized, two years ago, by your Corresponding Secretary, but for want of funds to carry on the work but little has been done as they desired. During the last year a small fund was collected to start the present year with, which, together with a $500 donation, mentioned elsewhere, we secured for that State, has enabled the Board to begin the year with three evangelists in the field, whose support is secured. These men are expected not only to preach, but to arrange the churches into small groups for the support of other laborers among themselves, who will edify the brethren and evangelize in all the regions round about. We expect a good report from Kansas next year. No dividends expected yet from this State.

MICHIGAN

Set out to raise a dollar per member the past year. They gained sixty-two additions and raised five hundred dollars, not realizing their earnest expectation, but have just closed a very interesting State Convention in which the interests of Sunday schools, feeble churches, and the missions were fully before them. They hope to accomplish more in the year to come. The State is not discouraged with past failures, remembering that the States now leading the van were once where Michigan now is. $37.58 dividends to the General Treasury.

VIRGINIA

Resolved to raise $5,000 the past year, and has neatly accomplished the task. This averages about fifty cents to the member in the entire State. Besides what this State is doing for missions, they are raising money systematically to keep several young men in Bethany College preparing for the ministry, and are projecting a school for the care and education of orphans. Their additions by missionary labor the year past number ———. No dividends.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Pennsylvania has had five missionaries (Hyatt, Jobes, Mitchell, Lowber and Streator) in the field part of the time, besides several others (Cowden, Sweeney and Leonard), holding occasional meetings, making an aggregate of 1,090 days' labor, 690 sermons, 122 baptisms, 77 other accessions, 25 churches assisted, six churches aided in procuring preachers, one new church organized, one meeting-house purchased at a cost of $1,400, and the Pittsburg mission successfully sustained during the last nine months of our missionary year. This is equal to the labors of one man for thirty-six months, or of three men during the year. Our Convention at Hazelwood resolved to raise $5,000 during the year. The resolution has been executed, the receipts amounting to $6,135.58. See financial report.

COLORADO.

The 301 Disciples in Colorado enrolled from eleven different places, held a convention September 14, at Golden City, and organized for missionary work in connection with all their brethren of the States. This is a bold movement and deserves a ready recognition by this convention. They are but few and weak, and will need material aid from your treasury.

MARYLAND AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

This convention was organized in April last. Four week's missionary labor was performed. About $175 were raised, and fourteen confessions were the direct result. Seven churches form the co-operation, with A. N. Gilbert as President, and O. A. Bartholomew, Secretary.

INDIANA,

The last to hold her State Convention, like Ohio and Pennsylvania, has more than realized the amount she set out to raise. The Board considered all moneys raised by the organization, whether for the support of evangelists or for the erection of mission-houses with which they were directly connected, as legitimate missionary funds. Their year's labor in general terms resulted in 1,249 additions, 19 churches organized, 106 assisted, 17 aided in procuring preachers and in raising $27,337.17. The Sunday school enterprise of this State is well known and needs no special mention here. An effort is also to be put forth, looking to an asylum for orphans to be cared for by the Disciples in the State.

Our movements founding churches in cities during the last two years make important progress in missionary efficiency. Buffalo, Pittsburg, Columbus, Toledo, Fort Wayne, Richmond, Waterloo City, Peoria, Galesburg and Chicago have all been aided in founding churches with

encouraging success, and now the brethren of New York are laying their plans for a church in the City of Brooklyn. In six of these cities meeting-houses either have been built or are being built.

An unmistakable sign of our growth is found in the character of all our late conventions. Good order, kind feeling, and business efficiency have marked them all. Quiet deliberation as to the best interests of the cause, the almost entire absence of disputatious feeling, and inflexible resolution to push on the work in spite of all obstruction in the way are the sure precursors of eminent success.

STATES.	DISBURSED BY GEN. B'D.	DISBURSED BY STATE B'DS	TOTALS.	ADDITIONS.	CHURCHES ORGANIZ'D.
Iowa	.....	$5,610 00	$5,610 00	386	4
Missouri	$147 10	5,738 66	5,738 66	743	...
Indiana	750 00	26,587 17	27,337 17	1,249	19
Illinois	.....	6,000 00	6,000 00	1,040	...
Ohio	1,230 80	22,119 43	23,350 23	625	4
New York	.....	1,298 60	1,298 60	243	...
Kentucky	100 00	9,907 00	10,007 00	884	...
Virginia	.....	5,000 00	5,000 00	.....	...
Pennsylvania	202 00	5,933 58	6,135 58	199	...
Michigan	37 58	500 00	537 58	62	...
Georgia	.....	209 00	209 00	136	...
Nebraska	.....	370 50	370 50	327	...
Maryland	.....	175 00	175 00	14	...
Minnesota	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
Mississippi	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
Kansas	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
Freedmen	.....	.....	.....	3,000	19
	.....	.....	$91,869 32	8,768	46
From other resources as per report of Recording Secretary			4,158 80		
Grand Total			$96,028 12		

Such is a brief outline of our labors and successes in the several States, which the General Board and Secretary have earnestly shared with the officers of the States.

This introduces a necessary remark or two as to the part assigned to the General Board in the enterprise we have undertaken. Section four of the Constitution says: "It shall be the duty of the General Board and Corresponding Secretary to provide for and superintend missionary operations in destitute places not actually in State and District organizations, and to promote the harmonious co-operation of all the State and District Boards and Conventions." The first work of the Board naturally was to promote said harmonious co-operation in the States and Districts, and to see it well under way before there could be any means in the treasury to expend upon "destitute places." Our effort has been, these four years, to grow the co-operation into such efficiency as to furnish the General Treasury with the means necessary for the second part of our duties. But in most of the States the organization works, as yet, but imperfectly, and requires much traveling, correspondence, conference and patience on the part of the Board and Secretary to suggest ways and means to manage difficulties, remove obstructions, tone up the discouraged, to fill vacancies, and to turn many a threatened defeat into real victory. Evangelists often become discouraged and leave the field, District Boards frequently neglect their duties, the home ministry often seem indifferent, and many members wholly untrained to giving for any benevolent purpose abroad. An inadequate home ministry in very many churches allows their financial affairs as to home expenses to dilapidate—an evil that connects itself with other hindrances to missionary contribu-

tions. Brethren wonder why the General Board does not begin the second part of the work assigned them in establishing missions in destitute and foreign regions. But we have not yet been able to get through with the first duty assigned us—securing co-operation in the States and Districts efficient enough to bring the necessary means into our treasury. If the Convention can devise other measures than we have been able to use for a speedier development of our resources it would be well to do so. But we have been compelled to accept the real status of our churches as we find it, work for development and not become impatient. We can not jerk our machinery into momentum. It requires time to mobilize a grand army of 400,000, especially when so many of the companies are not in fighting condition. The unpreparedness of so many congregations for any aggressive movements upon the world was unknown to us until after the return of our faithful missionaries from their many exploring tours through the States and Districts; but our *organized weakness* has been discovered, and knowing now where to apply the remedy, we look for steadier growth in the decades yet to come. But whether weak or strong, the General Board has labored with and for the States, and are partakers with them in all the growing and good results of past years.

THE FREEDMEN.

Besides what we have been able to do these four years in organizing, harmonizing, and stimulating State and District work up to our present hopeful condition, we are glad to have made a beginning in the second department of our duties—missions among the destitute in regions not under State control. The history of the Mississippi Mission is familiar to all. As soon as the Board were apprized of the movement, in July last, they sent them a gross of hymn books, and some Bibles for their pulpits. Soon after this, we employed Brethren Levin Wood, the colored preacher leading the reform among his race, and George Owen, of Illinois, as Evangelists to spread and guide the work. They have been ardently and prayerfully at work, and deserve the sympathy and support of all who care for the colored people of the South. Their success as reported to date of October 1st is wonderful, showing:

Congregations organized	20
Sunday Schools	7
Colored Preachers	9
Meeting-houses Built	4
Total Membership	3,000
Colored Preachers Partly Sustained	4

The above was all accomplished in about three months, and the prospects great for a wide-spread awakening in large portions of the South, if the Board can only obtain the means to press along in the work.

Having no resources from dividends coming in from the State treasuries to support the evangelists, we called upon the churches for special gifts, and have received to date $837.39, a detailed statement of which will be seen in the report of the Recording Secretary.

We have also to record with pleasure several other liberal donations in the shape of Sunday school papers, Bibles and Testaments.

100 copies, for one year, of the *Little Sower*, by W. W. Dowling, worth	$30 00
100 copies, for one year, of *Good Words*, by Transylvania P. & P. Co., worth	30 00

Bibles and Testaments, by Dr. A. G. Lucas, worth.....		8 50
Expressage on same, by Bro. Glass,.....		1 00
100 Bibles, 200 Testaments and Psalms, 700 Testaments,	American Bible Society,.....	233 60
Total in Books and Papers,.....		328 10
Making in all Donations to Mississippi Freedmen.....		1,165 49

This last donation was given chiefly through the prompt assistance of the Kentucky State Board and Dr. Geo. Savage, agent of the Bible Society in Kentucky. As the application had to be made to a Bible agent by some authority in his own District, our Kentucky Board not only readily consented to manage the application throughout, but paid charges on the boxes from New York to Mississippi. The Society, Dr. Savage and the Board all deserve our thanks.

More than a year ago *The Missionary* began to agitate the necessity of a "Bible School for educating a colored ministry." The question being brought before the last convention in the official report, the Board was directed to take such measures as would accomplish the desired end. We are glad to say that such a school has been started in Louisville, Kentucky, with a Local Board to take charge of all its immediate interests. It is provided with Text Books that belong to the Institution, one professor, and other needful appliances of which the special report from that Board will speak particularly. We suggest that the questions of the future permanency of said school and the acquisition of a theological library are worthy the consideration of this Convention. Intelligent Christian teachers and preachers are the great wants of that race, and we begin aright when we provide for the education of men of their own color to evangelize them and to guide them into all truth.

In purchasing Bibles and other Text Books for the use of students while in the school, we recognize the liberality of Wilson, Hinkle & Co., of Cincinnati, in deducting sixty-three dollars as a donation to the school. Said books are all marked and belong to the Institution. Of the subscriptions for the support of this school $187.50 have been paid in, as appears in the report of the Recording Secretary.

Thomas Munnell, Secretary General Missionary Convention:

DEAR BROTHER—At the last meeting of the Convention, held in Louisville, Kentucky, October, 1872, the Executive Board was authorized to establish at some suitable place an institution for the education of colored men for the ministry.

Some months since you notified the brethren of Louisville, that our city had been selected as the location of said school and asked the churches of that city to take the local charge of the enterprise by appointing a local Board of Managers with Dr. W. H. Hopson as Chairman, to represent the Executive Board. The Local Board consists of Brethren W. H. Hopson, Wm. Kay, R. H. Wilson and Dr. Wm. Bailey, of the Fourth-street church; Elders I. B. Grubbs and W. H. Bartholomew, of the Chestnut-street church; and J. T. Sweeney and Wm. Kleen, of the Fifteenth-street church, organized with Dr. Hopson as Chairman, and Dr. Wm. Bailey, Secretary. We have secured the services of Bro. P. H. Morse as teacher at a salary of $75 per month.

Bro. Morse brings to the school an experience of twenty years as a teacher, and thirty-five years as a preacher, and in our opinion is eminently fitted to begin a work of this kind.

By your direction we obtained of Bro. Chase, of Cincinnati, books, and in doing so, ordered of each book about two dozen copies, notwithstand-

ing the school does not contain so many scholars yet, we thought it best looking to an early increase. We have purchased supplies of Bro. Crump, of this city, to the amount of $12.65. The churches of this city will pay the expenses of janitor, coal, etc., for the school, amounting to near two hundred dollars. We have located for the present in the Hancock-street church, which we have recently built for our colored brethren, and so far the school seems to us a success. We have in attendance eleven young men who seem to be in earnest, and some of them will certainly go on to enlarged usefulness as a result of this laudable enterprise. We have secured positions for them all so far, by which they can earn their board. We congratulate the brotherhood and thank God for this school, although at present so small, believing it to be fraught with much of good to the colored race. Respectfully submitted,

WM. BAILEY,

LOUISVILLE, KY., October 10, 1873. *Secretary Local Board.*

Besides these two enterprises among the Freedmen your Board has secured a special donation of $500 from Bro. W. J. Ford and his wife, of New Castle, Pa., toward the support of an Evangelist for the State of Kansas. A successful man was soon found by the Kansas Board and put into the field, who for some months, has finely been justifying the wisdom of the gift. This is our ideal for aiding the weaker States. Give us means to work with, and you will not be ashamed of the results. The General Board must have means. The dividends legitimately belonging to our General Treasury are not sent on, and as in all our former reports, we repeat that this is our central want, and we ask the Convention to refer this matter to a competent committee, who may inquire of the representatives of the different States present, as to the causes of said failure and as to the possibilities of the future. Let there be a full and brotherly conference upon this subject, that said committee may report to the Convention the real hindrances in the past and the best way to succeed in this matter hereafter. We are aware that in most of the States the organizations are as yet infirm, and that it has required most of their means to run the State and District work. This has left Ohio and Indiana to do most that has been done for the General Treasury the last two years, and we fear they will soon begin to inquire how long they are to be left to bear this burden almost alone. We are satisfied that it is not an indisposition on the part of State Boards to make the proper dividends with the General Board, but whatever may be the cause of it, we have been waiting these four years for the States and Districts to get a start, and it can not be considered hasty now to ask some remedy of this deficiency.

In order to aid the Convention in coming to just conclusions in reference to the dividends to the General Treasury, it is thought well to state the following facts:

1. Nearly all the Districts in all the States have employed their laborers before knowing the amount of their own dividends, and then found that the money rightfully belonging to the District was insufficient to meet the demand. Hence, moneys that ought to have gone to the other treasuries have been spent in the Districts.

2. The plan of having Evangelists traveling at random over large districts, holding a protracted meeting here and there, has not met with popular favor as a general rule, because it does not seem to meet the real wants of the cause. Were we prepared to support men in doing the work of Evangelists — setting in order the things that are wanting — it would be well, but a system of random protracted meetings seems not to satisfy the brethren, and does not command their means to support it.

3. Besides this, the money collected on the field in protracted meetings has never been subject to division. The collections sent by the churches to the treasuries alone have ever been divided, so that it is vain to expect one-fourth of all that any State reports to be sent to the General Treasury. For the last three years but a small per cent. of the whole amount raised has been sent to the General Treasury by any State. The average in Ohio, for three years, has been about six per cent.; in Indiana about five per cent.; in Kentucky about four per cent.; and less in other States. Nor can this be avoided very well at present, because so large a portion in all the States is spent on the field just as it is raised. Our plan of operation needs no change, but readjustment in one or two particulars which we hope a committee of reference might be able to suggest.

WHAT FUNDS SHOULD BE REPORTED AS MISSIONARY.

We invite attention to the fact that the brethren in all the States have experienced difficulty in deciding what should and what should not be considered missionary money. Some States, as Kentucky and Iowa are counting nothing but what is spent in the support of missionaries in the field; while others as Ohio and Indiana, regard the money raised by our missionaries for building missionary meeting-houses, for paying off old debts on such houses to save them to the cause, money raised to support preachers in small groups of weak churches to prevent them from dying, for Sunday schools and such like purposes, as legitimate missionary money. So much work is opening up before us, besides that which we have been accustomed to call strictly *missionary*, that it seems impossible to confine ourselves within our former limits. We have outgrown our old clothes and must either widen the meaning of the word *missionary* or provide columns in our blanks to report each of these several kinds of funds, or else abandon all this work that requires new columns. We suggest a reference of this matter to a committee to report the most advisable way of relieving ourselves from embarrassment in making our reports.

BEQUESTS.

The following resolution on bequests was passed in the Convention last year—"that the General Board be requested to prepare for publication in our papers an address to our brotherhood on the subject of bequests in aid of the missionary work and to see that proper provision be made for rendering such bequests legal."

In obedience to this order the Board, as directed, proceeded to secure a legal change of name from "The American Christian Missionary Society" to the "General Christian Missionary Convention," June 6, 1873, and published the instrument effecting this change in the *Standard* and *Missionary*, as required by law. Immediately after this the "address" above ordered was written and published "in our papers." A standing form of bequests is kept printed in the *Missionary*.

During the past year two bequests have been made in favor of our treasury. One by sister Lucy A. Hahn, of Baltimore, deceased, of $500 which was paid by Bro. G. W. Morley, her executor. She sleeps in Jesus; her works shall follow her, and her liberality will preach the gospel of Christ, while she rests in Abraham's bosom. The other is a bequest of $5,000 in the will of a brother in Kentucky, who has made the Lord an equal sharer in his estate with his wife and children. It is by the conditions of the will to be invested so that the interest thereof shall always be used for the spread of the gospel of Jesus Christ," under the direction of the Board. Since this, $15,000 have been willed to our

treasury by one who loves God, whose name we are not at liberty to mention. This needs no comment except the expression of a hope that many other brethren of means will do likewise, that though dead they may yet speak on the earth for God. The State Conventions are also beginning to receive bequests in the shape of money, wills and life insurance policies—one to the amount of $7,500, another $13,000—in all about $40,000 that some day will yield an annual revenue for the spread of the gospel. This shows the value of organization and of legal incorporation.

OUR NATIONAL CENTENNIAL.

The Disciples have been respectfully addressed from the "office of the Centennial Commission, Philadelphia," requesting us with other religious bodies to fill our niche in the International Anniversary, of 1876, in honor of the hundredth year of our national existence. It is not intended to be exclusively a gigantic "World's Fair," but in the general classification is Group 95 devoted to "religious organizations and systems." This Group is subdivided into five "classes" comprehending all that goes to constitute the potencies and achievements of the religious world—their historical, statistical, and benevolent forces, their irliterary, educational and missionary movements, and whatever else enters into the moral and religious developments of our country. This assembly, we think, should decide whether we will neglect this opportunity of getting our plea before the whole world or appoint a competent committee to briefly write up the history of our movement and present the proper exhibit of who and what we are in the National Exposition of 1876.

FREE-WILL BAPTISTS.

We would remind the Convention of the courtesy due these brethren, whose last General Convention sent us their cordial greetings in the person of Bro. Bates. Their love of the truth and unsectarian spirit command our respect, and we suggest the appointment of a committee to present a suitable address to their next triennial convention.

GENERAL SUNDAY-SCHOOL AGENT.

A desire is growing up and has been expressed in different States to have a general Sunday-school agent appointed by this Convention, whose business should be to unitize the work in all the States, to systematize it where needed, to establish a uniform Sunday-school financial system, to promote a more aggressive movement for founding new schools, and to make reports to the Board and to this Convention of the status, progress and wants of the entire Sunday-school interest. The last Indiana State Sunday-school Convention passed a resolution commending this thought to your consideration to-day. Should this matter be referred to a committee and approved by this assembly, it may be necessary then to have a committee to examine the several systems for Sunday-school collections, and report the best, with a view to its general introduction into all the States. The difficulty we now experience everywhere of introducing either a systematic or uniform finance system into the churches loudly endorses such a movement among the children, that the next generation may present a church of Apostolic order, liberality and missionary spirit.

GERMANY.

All attempts to inaugurate a mission work in Germany having failed; those who sent in small sums of money for that purpose have been requested to turn over said amounts for the Freedmen. Those who agree to this will be credited accordingly. If any prefer another disposition of it they will find the money in the treasury, subject to their order.

JAMAICA

Still sends up her annual report with some encouraging and some discouraging surroundings. Some of the churches are doing quite well; some are simply holding on to the faith. They still hope the mission will be revived. Some additions are being made to the churches; a few are falling away. Their steadfastness in the faith is cause of thanksgiving to God, and a hope may be entertained that that mission may be revived.

Without suggesting what other business should come before the Convention, the Board requests that those parts of this report that relate to the following subjects be referred to special committees:

1. Dividends to the General Treasury.
2. The Freedmen's Mission.
3. Our National Centennial.
4. General Sunday-school Agent.
5. What Funds to be reported as Missionary.
6. The Bible School in Louisville, Ky.

Besides these, the following standing committees will be ready to present their reports to the Convention:

Committee on Statistics—R. Moffett, Chairman.
Church Extension Fund—A. I. Hobbs, Chairman.
Sunday Schools—F. M. Green, Chairman.
Tracts—A. L. Hobbs.

In conclusion we remind the Convention of the following encouraging circumstances never to be forgotten in our effort to organize the hosts of God against inertia and sin;

1. Instead of the chaotic condition of things, five years ago, fifteen States are now *trying* to organize on the same system of co operation—the same system of conventions, of evangelists, of labor, reports, representation, contributions and dividends—and although in none of these things have we gained the goal we seek, it is encouraging to see formative forces at work, that are sure to convert all these nebulous potencies into well organized cosmical forces.

2. The sense of fixedness of purpose and stability of plan that is now taking possession of our minds is not the least advantage derived from the present organization. No one is now expecting fundamental changes in our business arrangements every year as formerly. As a consequence we are powerfully promoting Sunday school enterprise, pastoral labor, improved financial system in the churches, a better church registry and the setting in order of many other things that have long been wanting.

3. The forward movement effected in five years is marvelous. If we compare the hesitating, uncertain, chaotic, tremulous Convention of 1868, with the Convention of to-day we will feel that it is almost "life from the dead." Our true policy is not to moan over the things that are wanting which from Solomon's day till now have been "without num-

ber," but to regard every difficulty as a fresh challenge to the manhood and Christhood that is in us. George Whitefield was once preaching to a surging mob who were making threatening demonstrations against him. His heroic wife who was sitting behind, brave as Cæsar, fearing he might tremble a little before the devil's hosts, said to him--"Now, George, play the man for God." The electricity of these words shot through the soul and body, and made him feel, as he said afterwards, that he could have rushed half way to the gates of damnation to preach the gospel of Christ.

Fired by the words of the Lord Jesus let us each try to "play the man of God." Then shall not only the work of the past year, so imperfectly done, but all the work of our soldier life, be "found unto praise and glory and honor at the appearing of Jesus Christ."

By order of the Board,

THOMAS MUNNELL,
Corresponding Secretary.

Isaac Errett, of Ohio, moved that the several portions of Report be referred to appropriate committees. Carried.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

F. M. Green, of Ohio, from the Standing Committee on Sunday Schools, read the report of the Committee.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

DEAR BRETHREN:—The year that has passed away since we assembled in annual Convention at Louisville, Ky., has been one of great labor, and intense activity, over the almost entire field of Sunday school sowing, culture, and harvest.

In this country great advances have been made in the departments of Sunday school teaching and machinery. Questionable methods of operation have either passed into the realm where there is no question concerning their profitable use, or have dropped out of sight altogether. The flashing enthusiasm which has accompanied the inauguration of modern Sunday school movements and their development, has been supplemented, and strengthened, in a great degree, by a care and preparation which will insure continual successful advances. A large per cent. of the best brain, and sanctified Christian talent in the land, is anxiously and earnestly watching in every department, that nothing that dishonors God, or debases men, shall find a resting place among our methods of teaching, organization, or the doctrine enforced.

In England, Wales, Ireland, and Scotland, a much better state of affairs exists than even one year since. The mutual interchange of thought and experience, which has been brought about largely by the study and use of the "International Series of Bible Lessons," has had much to do in accomplishing this result. Probably there are not less than seven millions of teachers and scholars in this country, and in the countries above named, engaged in the weekly analysis and study of this series of lesson topics. Whatever criticism may be made of *this* arrangement for a common and general study of the Bible, it appears to us that

it must result in great good. It is our opinion after a careful survey of the field, and with a wide knowledge of the facts, that there has not been, for many centuries, so much real study of God's Word for the purpose of learning its rich lessons as there is to-day. This general study of the Bible in the "school of the church," is producing great agitation in infidel circles. It is not long since a noted anti-Bible and anti-christian paper headed one of its editorial productions with these words—"Sunday schools the greatest crime of the age." The principal reason assigned was that the Sunday school was impressing the sentiments of the Bible on the minds of such a great multitude of children and young people, that their hearts would be biased in favor of them before they could receive other instruction, infidel of course, and make an impartial choice between them. The anti-christian world fears the influence of the Sunday school more than it would an "army with banners." And well it may, for no appliance is so well calculated, when wisely used, to bend the spears and batter the shields of infidelity, or bore humanitarianism, as the Sunday school. And if it is the "greatest crime of the age" to teach the children the Way, the Truth, and the Life, then let us all rejoice in the stupendous crime, and become even greater criminals than we now are. The following testimony, taken from the columns of the New York *Independent*, will be heard with interest:

"The study of the International Series of Bible Lessons is doing more to check the progress of modern skepticism, than are all the pages and columns written on that much mooted theme, together with all the theological lectures from excited and alarmed professors throughout Christendom. While adult champions of the truth are half inclined to abandon the contest or to anticipate ultimate defeat, a generation of young believers more numerous than in any previous age, is being grounded in the knowledge and faith of the Scripture, than was ever before the case since those Scriptures were first written. Never before were so many children and youth studying the Bible reverently and intelligently. Never before was the Bible believed and prized above all books by so large a portion of the human race. Never before had skepticism so little power, actually or relatively. Never before was it so little to be dreaded in its progress or possibilities, all the theological and magazine croakers to the contrary notwithstanding."

Progress has also been made during the year in the art of Sunday school teaching. Fifty years ago there was but little effort at teaching Bible truth in the Sunday school by any method. There was a great deal of unintelligent memorizing of Scripture by the children; but there was little thought of explaining to them what they memorized. Because they could fasten in the memory words which they did not understand, it was deemed wise to cram the children's minds with meaningless phrases in the vague hope that by and by they would find a meaning to some of them, while time would be lost in seeking to explain them now. Our fathers seemed to disagree with Paul that it was better to "speak five words with the understanding than ten thousand words in an unknown tongue." After a while the capacity of children to understand Bible truth was recognized, and they were *taught* in the Sunday school, instead of being merely drilled in its recitations. They were shown the meaning of what they memorized, and they gained something beyond the "form of sound words." They were shown what was "piped or harped" in the gospel melody. There can be no doubt that our Sunday school teaching at present is a great improvement on the Sunday school teaching of a generation ago. Children are taught to memorize the Bible understandingly, instead of unmeaningly, as formerly.

Another advanced step has been taken in the matter of reviews. The

scholars stop at stated seasons, and review what they have once passed over. It is now deemed insufficient in the best schools to look *once* at the lessons and obtain its *apparent* meaning; it must be looked at again and viewed in its relation to other of its series. Ten-fold more is learned in Sunday schools that are often and well reviewed, than in those which have no reviews. Great attention is also given to understanding the best method of reaching the individual child or class with the Bible truth under consideration. These are some of the signs and evidences of a sure progress along the entire line of Sunday school endeavor. Yet with all this advancement, there is a corresponding necessity to study and carefully guard this mighty appliance for the spread of divine truth from its internal or external foes. Some one has said—"Error is but perverted truth." The best things are most liable to be abused. In this way, the greatest good may become the most infernal evil. Destroy evil in its beginnings, and even guard with strictest fidelity this noble and effective agency for extending Messiah's kingdom. Years since it was written by John Angell James—"In a few years we shall look upon all the past progress of the Sunday school but as the *beginning*, as a kind of first fruits, an earnest of the future of this great institution of the Christian church." These words have been wonderfully verified in the history of the Sunday school.

OUR OWN WORK.

In our own particular field, much has been done during the year just closed.

1. The International Series of Bible Lessons has been widely studied by the Disciples, in common with other religious people. Those who have made use of them, have been generally well pleased, and still esteemed them worthy of their attention and analysis.

2. Our work is being more thoroughly organized than ever before. It is true that in only a few States where we have any considerable strength have we a Sunday school organization; still the work is not neglected nor ignored, and progress towards more effective organization is being continually made. The following specifications with the information contained in them, will be of interest:

OHIO has a most excellent State association, through which nearly every part of the State is reached. Her State organization was perfected in May, 1868, and is Indiana's senior by only a few months. The effort in Ohio is to work more in districts and counties, than in general mass-meetings of the Sunday school people of the State. More than thirty district institutes have been held in the State since the Louisville Convention.

F. M. Green, Toledo, Ohio, is the Corresponding Secretary at the present time.

INDIANA excels all the States in the general enthusiasm of her Sunday school workers. The State Conventions of Indiana are simply immense. No one religious body in the Nation has ever held such monster delegate Sunday school meetings as those which assembled at Laporte, Greensburg, and Newcastle. The banner for the largest and most enthusiastic Sunday school Conventions belongs to Indiana, and to her it is cheerfully awarded. Nor in other respects is the work in Indiana behind the best. From all parts of her rich field, the joyful shouts of the harvesters of the golden grain come to our ears.

W. W. Dowling, Indianapolis, Indiana, is the Corresponding Secretary.

ILLINOIS has a State organization. Its workings are modified by its relation to the Missionary Society of the State. Illinois has a splendid Sunday school field, and is not behind her sister States in zeal and good works. At the State Missionary Convention held in August of the present year, at Jacksonville, it was resolved to hold a State Sunday school Convention in the month of October.

L. H. Dowling. of Bloomington, Illinois, is the present Corresponding Secretary.

MISSOURI, if we may credit the accounts from that State, has done more during the last year for Sunday schools than ever before. Not only has a State Convention been held, or rather the State Sunday school interests considered in the State Missionary Convention, but, also several District institutes have been held in various parts of the State. The Missouri brethren have the ability and the *will* to do splendid service in this direction. We shall look for a grand report from that State next year.

John Burns, of St. Louis, Mo., is the Corresponding Secretary.

KENTUCKY has finally put into operation her good resolutions of two or three years past. One of the most important acts of the State Missionary Convention held in Lexington, was to make preparations to hold a State Sunday school Convention in Paris, Kentucky, beginning November 4, 1873.

Editorially, the *Apostolic Times* says: "It is expected that this Convention will inaugurate a work in the State which shall increase the number and efficiency of our Sunday schools. Let all of our Sunday schools respond liberally to the call which will be made on them by the committee appointed for that purpose, and let every school in the State that possibly can, be represented in the Paris Convention."

To these sentiments we respond Amen! and bid Kentucky Godspeed in her noble determinations.

J. S. Sweeney is Chairman of the State Committee on Sunday schools.

NEW YORK has no State organization of its Sunday school forces, yet we are pleased to be able to record a commendable interest and advancement in the cause. In a State in which are found some of the strongest organizations, and some of the ablest Sunday school men of this or any other country, our people *can not* and *must* not long remain behind in the matter of a thoroughly organized effort in behalf of Sunday schools. They need it for their own protection; they need it as a powerful appliance in pushing our special religious interests.

NEBRASKA, for its opportuuities, is doing well. There is at present no organizatiou of either district or State under our control.

WEST VIRGINIA has made considerable progress, without any special organizaion, other than individual schools.

IOWA has no State or District organization. Its workmen, however, are not idle, and the churches generally have good Sunday schools under their management.

MISSISSIPPI has no State or District organization. It has one of the ripest fields in the Union for successful Sunday school work. The door stands wide open for brave men and women to enter into a harvest field of almost surpassing promise.

GEORGIA has no organization. Our hope is that during the present year something better than ever before will be done in behalf of Sunday schools in the State. Like Mississippi there is an ample field and excellent prospects.

PENNSYLVANIA has made progress during the year. The Sunday school workers are not yet organized in the State, but they need not wait long. They have the ability to manage an organization in the special interest of Sunday schools. There are many excellent schools in the State. That at Alleghany City numbers more than three hundred scholars.

MICHIGAN has no State organization. Here is another State where there is strength sufficient for united State work. With such men as L. R. Gault, C. M. C. Cook, Elias Sias, M. P. Hayden, Gilbert Ellis, E. A. Lodge and others, there ought to be no halting in that splendid State.

VIRGINIA has no State organization. Its brotherhood is large enough and wise enough to make the Sunday school power felt to the verge of the boundaries of the "Old Dominion."

KANSAS is without a State organization. During the past year much good work has been done in individual schools. The church school at Leavenworth has more than doubled its membership. We shall expect to hear a good report from Kansas next year.

We would recommend that in States like some of the last mentioned, that in the annual State and District Missionary Conventions, the Sunday school interests be made a *specialty* for at least one day during each Convention. There can be no conflict between the missionary and Sunday school interests, for they are only different appliances among the same people for furthering a common cause. We would also suggest for the consideration of the brethren in all the States whether it would not be wise to arrange, as far as possible, for town, county, or District Sunday school Institutes during the coming year. A few schools could be gathered together at almost any time, and the influence of an earnest Sunday school Convention can not be measured. A Sunday school Convention or Institute, well managed, for one or two days, is worth to any church two weeks' protracted meeting. This is our experience.

We would further suggest that in the organized States an effort be made by the State and District organizations to establish new schools, mission schools, and in churches where there are no schools, urge their immediate organization. If this is done we can make a report next year that will gladden every heart.

STATISTICS.

The following statistical table has been sent at the request of Charles Warren, acting Commissioner of the Bureau of Education at Washington, D. C., as the estimated and official numerical condition of our schools.

STATES.	NO. OF SCHOOLS.	OFFICERS AND TEACHERS.	SCHOLARS.
West Virginia	40	315	3,280
New York	55	475	5,450
Missouri	225	2,575	28,540
Kentucky	325	3,785	35,000
Ohio	340	3,935	36,000
Illinois	375	4,125	48,785
Indiana	585	7,480	75,000
Nebraska	35	275	3,425
Minnesota	25	198	2,120
Iowa	55	580	5,125
Mississippi	30	225	3,485
Georgia	25	175	2,875
Michigan	75	625	7,275
Virginia	98	825	9,875
Kansas	25	315	4,165
California	40	380	3,800
North Carolina	15	125	1,200
South Carolina	10	60	600
All Others	75	800	8,500
Total	2,453	27,173	284,470

SUGGESTIONS.

We would renew the suggestion made one year since in the following words: "For the highest efficiency and success we believe it advisable, as soon as practicable, to have a General Secretary of Sunday schools, to devote his energies to the promotion of their interests. Himself thoroughly abreast of the times in all the healthful improvements in the work of Sunday schools, he could circulate a knowledge of them through all our churches, impart information, stimulate interest, and incite liberality that would be felt throughout all our bounds."

Another want which is deeply felt among those who are most active and earnest in the general Sunday school field, is a paper whose pages may be largely devoted to a discussion of all the questions which concern the teachers' and superintendents' business. We have no paper of the kind published among us. We are, therefore, dependent almost entirely upon the denominational papers of the country for the specific instruction which we need. We believe a paper published monthly at a cost of about seventy-five cents a year, ought to have, and would have, a generous support. We ask the Convention to consider this matter. We do not desire, however, to press it upon your attention further than to get your thought and wisdom upon it.

Our Sunday school papers published for the children, viz: *The Little Sower*, *Little Chief*, *Children's Friend*, *Good Words*, and *Little Watchman*, are not excelled in this country. Of this class of papers we have enough to supply all our needs, and a generous support will enable them to grow better each year.

CONCLUSION.

We are thankful to our Heavenly Father for his abundant blessings in our department of Christian labor and enterprise during the year that is now gone. We are glad we have been permitted to work in the blessed cause of Sunday schools. It is a kingly honor to be the bearers of glad

tidings of great joy to the multitudes of children that come at our call Our aim ought to be that

> "The full force
> Of our teaching and example
> Should go *one* way."

At a Sunday school union meeting in London, the Rev. J. P. Chown told of a little boy, living in a dark, dismal court of a large city; who one day seeing a sunbeam coming down like a shaft of light amidst the gloom of his home, ran towards it, exclaiming: "Mother, mother, run for a hammer and nail, that we may fasten down the sunbeam and keep it here." So may be the work of the Sunday school teacher—to bring down beams of unwonted light into darkened homes and hearts, to meet the wants of longing little ones, and to be fastened there by God's blessings "as a nail in a sure place," to abide with the children always. What we do for the children will never die. What we do for God here will be eternally widening in infinite circles.

Appreciating the high honor we have received at your hands, we commit to you our report, praying that God's blessing may rest upon all our labors.

F. M. GREEN, Ohio,
L. L. CARPENTER, Indiana,
W. L. WILLIAMS, Kentucky,
Standing Committee on Sunday Schools.

E. Goodwin, of Kentucky, moved the adoption of the report.

Ira J. Chase, of Illinois, moved that the several references be referred to committees. After discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

W. T. Moore, of Ohio, moved that the consideration of the report be postponed until 2 o'clock, P. M. Question, after discussion by Hinsdale, of Ohio, Hardin, of Indiana, Van Buskirk, of Indiana, Myers of West Virginia, and J. J. Moss, of Ohio, was carried.

The report of Standing Committee on Statistics was submitted by R. Moffett, of Ohio, Chairman.

Your Standing Committee on Statistics beg leave to report as follows:

We are unable to give a satisfactory statistical report of our churches in the United States. From only five States, viz.: New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, and Nebraska, have we received any detailed statement of the status of the churches. The State Secretaries promise due diligence in their respective efforts to procure the fullest statistical information. We have sought also for information respecting the number and condition of our schools of learning, but so far have obtained only a partial report.

We have also sought information concerning our periodical literature,

with a view to ascertaining how many families of our brotherhood are supplied with religious papers. We have obtained only a partial report. We deem it important that such information shall be gathered as we are willing shall be published. We recommend that continued efforts be made during the coming year to obtain the fullest information possible, with a view to publishing the same. The reports already received give evidence that such information is practicable. If we accept the invitation to contribute our share to the National Centennial, it is important that our status as a people shall be fairly represented.

R. MOFFETT,
E. A. LODGE,
Committee.

On motion of L. L. Pinkerton, of Kentucky, the report was adopted, and Committee continued.

W. K. Pendleton, of West Virginia, Chairman, presented the report of Standing Committee on Religious Literature.

The Standing Committee on Religious Literature respectfully reports That though contributions of great merit have been made during the past year to our religious literature, none of these have been submitted to the official judgment of your Committee, and it has not felt it to be either its duty or privilege to report any special notice of them.

The subject referred to your Committtee is a broad one, and, in the judgment of your Committee, one which does not come legitimately under the supervision of this Convention; and your committee, therefore, not only ask to be discharged, but respectfully suggest that the subject itself be stricken from the list of those hereafter to be referred to standing committees.

W. K. PENDLETON,
ISAAC ERRETT,
W. H. HOPSON,
Committee.

Which was adopted.

The Committee on Tract Award made its report through its Chairman, A. I. Hobbs, of Ohio.

Your Committee on revising tracts and awarding compensation to their authors, begs leave to report

That only a few manuscripts have been submitted to us for examination. Although most of these are quite meritorious, yet the number contributed is not deemed sufficient on the subjects announced, and upon which manuscripts were solicited by the Publishing Committee, to warrant us in making any awards; for the reason that economy in publication can not be secured until a larger number of contributions shall be received.

It may be well for the Convention to consider what further means may be necessary to secure such tracts as are so generally needed.

A. I. HOBBS, Chairman,
W. A. BELDING,
W. K. PENDLETON,
ISAAC ERRETT, *et al*,
Committee.

L. L. Pinkerton, of Kentucky, moved that this report be adopted, and Committee continued.

J. S. Sweeney, of Kentucky, moved to amend by striking out "continued," and insertion of "discharged."

Question discussed by Pinkerton, of Kentucky, Moore, of Ohio, Sweeney, of Kentucky, Munnell, of Kentucky, and Pendleton, of West Virginia. Amendment carried, and motion as amended, adopted.

W. T. Moore, of Ohio, from Committee on German Mission made verbal report—That so far the project had failed, on account of not being able to secure a proper person; and that it seems unlikely that anything can be done for the present, and that the Committee begs leave to be discharged.

Discussed by Errett, of Ohio, Hopson, of Kentucky, Sloan, of Ohio, Sweeney, of Kentucky, Moss, of Ohio, Pendleton, of West Virginia, McGarvey, of Kentucky, and, on motion, W. K. Pendleton, of West Virginia, and W. A. Belding, of New York, were added to the Committee, and instructed to report some time during the present session of the Convention.

J. K. Cornell, of Iowa, from Committee on Order of Business, submitted the following additional report:

WEDNESDAY, October 22—2 P. M.:
1. Report Standing Committees.
2. Report Special Committess.
3. Miscellaneous Business.

THURSDAY, October 23—9 A. M.:
1. Report of Treasurer.
2. Report of Recording Secretary of Board of Managers.
3. Reports of Committees.
4. Miscellaneous Business.

11 A. M.—Address, E. M. Bruner, of Iowa.

2 P. M.—Unfinished Business.

7½ P. M.—Address by G. W. Longan, of Missouri. Alternate, J. W. McGarvey, of Kentucky.

President Bishop announced the following partial list of Committees:

Nomination of Officers.—J. S. Sweeney, Kentucky; William Rowzee, Pennsylvania; Bastian, Illinois; A. E. Myers, West Virginia; J. C. Irvin, Ohio.

Place of Next Convention.—A. I. Hobbs, Ohio; F. M. Bruner, Iowa; Ira J. Chase, Illinois; R. L. Howe, Indiana; E. Goodwin, Kentucky.

Dividends.—R. R. Sloan, Ohio; W. K. Pendleton, West Virginia; John C. Miller, Indiana; J. W. McGarvey, Kentucky; W. T. Moore, Ohio.

Freedmen.—B. A. Hinsdale, Chairman; J. L. Parson, Indiana; G. T. Carpenter, Iowa; W. C. Holton, Kentucky; G. J. Ellis, Michigan.

Missionary Funds.—L. L. Pinkerton, Chairman; D. R. Van Buskirk, Indiana; F. M. Kibbey, New York; S. M. Conner, Illinois; D. C. Stover, Colorado.

Centennial.—Isaac Errett, Ohio; J. C. Tully, Illinois; N. J. Aylesworth, Indiana; Dr. S. E. Pearre, Iowa; A. B. Chamberlain, New York.

Sunday School Agent.—L. L. Carpenter; Dr. E. A. Lodge, Michigan; F. M. Green, Ohio; L. H. Dowling, Illinois; B. F. Pullan.

W. H. Lape, of Kentucky, Committee on Railroads, made a statement in reference to return passes, for the information of members of Convention.

On motion adjourned. Benediction by Isaac Errett, of Ohio.

Wednesday, October 22—Afternoon Session.

President R. M. Bishop resumed the chair at 2 o'clock, called the Convention to order and read the 2d Psalm, followed by prayer by John Boggs, of Indiana.

Minutes of morning session read and approved.

W. T. Moore, of Ohio, by consent, offered the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas, Our next Annual Convention will be on our twenty-fifth anniversary, therefore,

Resolved, 1st—That W. K. Pendleton be requested to prepare and deliver an historical address on that occasion, embracing a general view of men and measures connected with our work.

2d—That a committee be appointed to report to this meeting such other special features as will add interest to the occasion and stimulate activity in the missionary cause.

Preamble and resolutions adopted.

The special order being the Report of the Committee on Sunday Schools, W. T. Moore, of Ohio, moved the adoption

of the Report. The motion was seconded, and discussion participated in by Ellis, of Michigan; Pendleton, of West Virginia; Sloan, of Ohio; Goodwin, of Kentucky; Bruner, of Iowa; J. J. Moss, of Ohio, and others.

R. Moffett, of Ohio, moved that so much of the Report as refers to Sunday school paper be referred to Committee on Sunday schools.

W. T. Moore, of Ohio, moved that the Report as a whole be referred to the special Committee on Sunday schools for their information. Motion carried.

The President appointed the following Committees:

On Bible School at Louisville for Educating a Colored Ministry—J. J. Moss, Ohio: L. H. Jameson, Indiana; James Challen, Ohio; J. H. Garrison, Illinois; A. P. Stewart, Kansas.

Committee on Special Features of 25th Anniversary Convention—W. T. Moore, Ohio; Thomas Munnell, Kentucky; Isaac Errett, Ohio; J. W. McGarvey, Kentucky; L. L. Carpenter, Indiana.

The hour for miscellaneous business having arrived, W. T. Moore, of Ohio, called for the consideration of amendment to constitution submitted at last Convention, substituting Louisville for Cincinnati.

Question discussed by Moore, of Ohio, Hopson, of Kentucky, J. J. Moss, of Ohio, and rejected by an almost unanimous vote—only five sustaining it.

John Boggs, of Indiana, gave notice of amendment to constitution providing for the restoration of the life membership feature so far as to enable churches or individuals to constitute their pastors and evangelists members of the Convention by paying a specified sum, and that the revenue derived therefrom go into the treasury of the General Convention.

The question submitted by L. L. Pinkerton, of Kentucky, at the last Convention—providing that in the future officers of this Convention be chosen by nomination and ballot—was taken up, discussed, and the following resolution was offered by W. T. Moore as a substitute:

[Dr. Pinkerton expressed a wish to withdraw his proposition, but Convention would not grant request.]

Resolved, That we go into election of officers immediately, and those

receiving a majority of all the votes cast for the respective offices shall be declared elected.

A. I. Hobbs, of Ohio, moved to amend—

That upon nominations being made by the nominating Committee, we shall proceed to election by ballot.

Discussed at considerable length.

The previous question was called for by P. M. Blankenship, of Indiana, and seconded by the Convention.

Question on amendment, by A. I. Hobbs, was lost.

The resolution of W. T. Moore was also rejected, and the original proposition of Dr. L. L. Pinkerton, of Kentucky, was adopted.

The amendment offered by Dr. W. H. Hopson, of Kentucky, for the insertion of "Biennial" in place of Annual Convention in the constitution, was on motion, postponed one year.

A. I. Hobbs, of Ohio, from Committee on Church Edifice Fund, read their report.

Your Committee on Church Edifice Fund, beg leave to report:

I. That we deem it inexpedient to present to the Convention at present an extended or detailed plan of operations in securing, controling and disbursing a Church Edifice Fund, because the data we are in possession of are insufficient to enable us to determine many of the details of such a plan. Besides there are many other reasons which we can not set forth in this report.

II. In order, however, to meet the desire of any person or persons who may wish to bequeath or donate money or other property for the purpose of building mission chapels or assisting congregations financially feeble to erect chapels, we recommend that the Convention authorize the Board of Managers to receive donations or bequests to be controlled according to a detailed plan which may hereafter be matured, it being understood that all donations or bequests so made shall constitute a perpetual loan fund, unless otherwise provided by the donors.

A. I. HOBBS, Chairman,
J. F. SLOAN,
JOHN A. DICKINSON,
D. L. THOMAS,
Committee.

This report of Committee was unanimously adopted.

On motion, Convention adjourned. Benediction pronounced by I. B. Grubbs, of Kentucky.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22—EVENING SESSION.

Social exercises of a very interesting character was led by A. I. Hobbs, of Ohio, and participated in by Rowzee, of Pennsylvania, Roberts, of Indiana, Challen, of Ohio, Carpenter, of Iowa, Walk, of Tennessee, Campbell, of Missouri, and Porter, of Australia.

After 7½ o'clock, President Bishop introduced Dr. W. H. Hopson, of Kentucky, who addressed the Convention—subject, "The freedmen—their wants and our obligations to them." The Convention was also addressed by Isaac Errett, of Ohio. After which subscriptions were received to the amount of $4,106 40. (The list of subscribers with amounts will be found on another page.)

Dismissed by benediction by P. M. Blankenship.

THIRD DAY

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23—MORNING SESSION.

From 8 to 9 o'clock social exercises led by D. H. Gary, of Indiana.

At 9 o'clock President Bishop resumed the chair.

Minutes of last afternoon and evening sessions read, corrected and approved.

W. H. Lape, of Kentucky, submitted the Report of Trustees of Christian Hymn Book. F. M. Green moved the adoption of the report. W. R. Jewell, of Indiana, moved to recommit to the Committee for an itemized account of sales, receipts and expenditures. Adopted.

The Treasurer's report was read by W. S. Dickinson, which on motion was referred to the Auditor.

The detailed statement of receipts and expenditures was pre-

sented by the Recording Secretary, and was also referred to Auditor.

[Treasurer's and Recording Secretary's reports will be found on another page.]

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

J. H. Garrison read the Report of Committee on Bible School at Louisville:

Your Committee to whom was referred that part of the report of the General Board referring to the establishment of a Bible school for the education of a colored ministry, would heartily recommend to the fostering care of this Convention and the general brotherhood, the school of this character already inaugurated at Louisville, Ky., under so favorable auspices, and that they take measures looking to the permanent establishment and growth of said school.

1. That as a means to this end, we earnestly urge upon all the brethren to donate such books, tracts and papers to the library of the school as will be useful in the mental and moral culture of the colored people.

2. Your Committee would also recommend that those who are in charge of this school exercise great care in the selection of such persons to receive the benefits of said school as will be useful in the work of the ministry.

J. J. Moss,
Jas. Challen,
A. P. Stewart,
J. H. Garrison,
Committee.

Motion to adopt was discussed by John Shackelford, of Kentucky, who moved to recommit report to Committee, with instruction to report a resolution abolishing the school. Seconded by L. L. Pinkerton. Remarks by G. T. Carpenter, of Iowa, Pinkerton, of Kentucky, J. J. Moss, of Ohio, Hobbs, of Ohio, Hopson, of Kentucky, Munnell, of Kentucky, Hinsdale, of Ohio, and Boggs, of Indiana.

Previous question called for by F. M. Green. Seconded by Convention. Motion to recommit lost, and report adopted.

L. L. Carpenter, of Indiana, read the Report of Committee on Sunday Schools:

The Committee to whom was referred the report of the standing committee on Sunday schools; also that part of the report of the Board of

Managers referring to the appointment of a General Secretary, beg leave to report in favor of said appointment for the reasons following:

1. The Sunday school work is an important part of our missionary enterprise, and as such should be provided with every instrumentality necessary to its highest development.

2. In the judgment of your committee the best interests of said schools demand a Secretary, "whose business should be, as far as possible, to unitize the work in all the States; to systematize it where needed; to inaugurate a uniform financial system for missionary contributions in all the States; to promote a more aggressive movement in the founding of new schools, and to make reports to the Board and to this Convention of the status, progress, and wants of the entire Sunday school interests in all the co-operating States."

3. With a simple and practicable system of finance we believe this work would be more than self-supporting.

We therefore recommend,

1. That the nominating committee be instructed to present the name of a suitable man for the position, and in case such name can not now be presented, that the Board be authorized to engage such Secretary as soon as he can be found.

2. We also recommend that said Secretary be not required to give himself wholly to the work at once; but that he be directed first chiefly by correspondence to initiate the financial system, and endeavor to create a general interest in favor of the Sunday school work.

It is also the opinion of your committee that for the present no effort be made to establish such a paper as recommended by the standing committee on Sunday schools, but that the columns of the MISSIONARY continue to be used as a means of communication among Sunday school workers of every grade.

We also recommend that all Sunday school workers interest themselves in the circulation of the MISSIONARY.

All of which is respectfully submitted by

L. L. CARPENTER, Indiana,
F. M. GREEN, Ohio,
L. H. DOWLING, Illinois,
E. A. LODGE, Michigan,
B. F. PULLEN, Kentucky,
Committee.

Motion on adoption of report discussed by Myers, of West Virginia.

W. T. Moore moved to strike out of the report all that refers to the appointment of a Sunday school Secretary.

W. K. Pendleton showed that this would strike out all the substantial parts of the report.

On motion of J. W. McGarvey, the report was laid over until the next Convention.

W. K. Pendleton moved that the rules be suspended and that the address of F. M. Bruner be postponed until evening. Carried.

Dr. L. L. Pinkerton, from Committee on question as to what funds should be called missionary, submitted the following report.

Your Committee to whom was referred the question: What should be regarded as missionary funds? beg leave to report as follows:

That this subject be left to the decision, by the Corresponding Secretary of the Christian Missionary Society, and by the secretaries of the several State Missionary Societies, and we recommend that their officers proceed at once by conference or by correspondence, to agree upon a uniform system on which all money raised by the Societies should be designated and arranged for publication

L. L. PINKERTON,
FRANK M. KIBBEY,
D. C. STOVER.
Committee.

Report of committee adopted.

W. H. Lape, of Kentucky, presented the amended report of the trustees of the Christian Hymn Book.

The trustees of the Hymn Book, beg leave to make the following report.

The sales of the various sizes of the Hymn Book and the Hymnal, is nearly equal to any former year.

They take pleasure in stating that they have paid the balance due on the stereotype plates of the Hymnal of last year, and also that they have paid over to the Missionary fund, the sum of $966.86. They feel much encouraged with the continued sale, and the popularity of the Hymn Book and Hymnal, and of the general disposition of the brotherhood to introduce them into the churches.

They now have on hand five sets of stereotype plates, four for the Hymn Book and one for the Hymnal, all of which, together with editing, insurance on plates, copy-right of tunes and other expenses, has cost over eight thousand dollars.

In future almost all the proceeds of the copyright will be applied to the missionary fund.

To the above report the trustees wish to add an itemized account of receipts and expenditures.

By amount received from the publishers of the Christian Hymn Book since last report $1,270 97.

Dr.—Paid balance on plates since last report	$203 72.
October 28, 1872, paid for alteration on plates	11 00
Interest on balance, due on previous expenditures	19 39
March 13, 1873, insurance on stereotype plates	70 00
Balance, paid Missionary Society	966 86
	$1,270 97

C. H. GOULD,
JOHN B. BOWMAN,
R. M. BISHOP,
O. A. BURGESS,
W. H. LAPE,
Trustees.

Motion to adopt report was made and seconded, but at the request of the Chairman of the Board, it was referred with accounts and vouchers to the Auditor.

R. R. Sloan, from committee on Distribution of Funds, submitted the following report:

Your Committee to whom was referred so much of the report of the Secretary as relates to co-operation with the General Convention in the distribution of funds, beg leave to report.

The experience and results of three years' operations, under the general plan is now before us. The receipts and pro-rata distributions of the several States which accepted the plan is as follows:

1. The aggregate sum contributed for missions in fourteen States is $186,700 91.

2. Of this amount only $7,396 31 has passed into the hands of the General Board.

In the light of these figures it is apparent that, while the General Board has labored vigorously and successfully in the attainment of one purpose for which it was created, viz.: "to promote harmonious co-operations in State and District Conventions;" it has not even approximated the other chief, though ultimate object of its existence, viz.: "to provide for and superintend missionary operations in destitute places, not actually in District and State organizations."

Unless this end be reached and the means secured to its treasury which will enable it to inaugurate some such missions, the continued existence of the General Board, is, with many, of doubtful propriety, and hence, is threatened a withdrawal of the scanty means which hitherto has barely met the current expenses thereof.

Moreover the same causes which threatened its existence must ultimately sap the foundations of our State Conventions, and the fall of the

one is harbinger to the fall of the other; not merely so, but in their downfall all our efforts in foreign fields, as also our co-operation efforts as a people, perish together.

To provide a remedy against the threatened danger we must seek, first, for the causes of this meager contribution to the general fund. These, we believe, lie *primarily* in the policy which confines all contributions to home work, often a necessity, and when so, of course profitable.

A secondary cause is the misunderstanding of the language and purpose of Section 7, Article 2, of the constitution under which clause the distribution under consideration is made.

Clearly the distribution ultimately expected under the plan is expressed in the leading clause of said article. The latter clause was intended to be exceptional in its application and was introduced for two purposes: first, to meet certain emergencies, and second, to remove certain objections which it was supposed would prevent so general acceptance of the plan as might otherwise be secured.

Some understand this article to be simply a recommendation, and others, that State and District Boards may direct the distribution of funds not designated by the donors for any particular work.

Your committee believe both these views to be erroneous.

1. The article, as indeed the Constitution itself, *was* a recommendation to the several States, and such only till by them adopted, but to as many as accepted, the plan to them it became a law.

2. The article guarantees to donors the right of saying how and where their donations shall be applied. But unless so designated by them all contributions must be distributed as the article directs.

It is moreover the judgment of your committee, especially in view of the preceeding considerations that the General Board should not any longer be debarred from soliciting funds from the general field for general use. Under pressing emergencies they have done so. We would recommend that they have license to do what they have done without law. It will give them access to fields from whose sympathies they were shut out, and supply them with means necessary to preserve their own existence and enlarge their field of usefulness.

Your committee therefore recommend the following section to be adopted as Section 8, Article 2, in our present Constitution.

It shall be the duty of the Corresponding Secretaries of the General Board, the State Boards and District Boards, respectively, and of such other agents as the General Board may employ, to procure special contributions under the direction of the General Board, and used by it for the missionary work committed to their management.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. R. SLOAN,
W. K. PENDLETON,
J. W. MCGARVEY,
W. T. MOORE,
JOHN C. MILLER.

R. Moffett moved the report be referred to the General Board with instructions to report at 2 o'clock. Carried.

A. I. Hobbs, from committee on Place of Next Convention, presented the following as report of this Committee:

Your committee to whom was referred the question of the place of holding the next annual Convention, have had the same under consideration, and submit the following for adoption:

Resolved, That our next General Missionary Convention be held at Cincinnati, Ohio, commencing at 2 o'clock, P. M., on the first Tuesday after the third Lord's day in October, A. D., 1874.

A. I. HOBBS,
ELIJAH GOODWIN,
R. L. HOWE,
F. M. BRUNER,
IRA J. CHASE,
Committee.

Isaac Errett, Chairman of Committee on Centennial Celebration of American Independence, presented their report:

Your Committee on that portion of the Report of the Board which relates to the Centennial Anniversary of American Independence beg leave to submit the following:

It is already well known that in accordance with the terms of an act of Congress, the Centennial Anniversary of our National Independence is to be celebrated by an Exhibition of the Art and Industry of all Nations, in the city of Philadelphia, in 1876. That Exposition will not be confined to material interests. It is designed to be a complete epitome of human progress, and will include, therefore, a presentation of moral and religious instructions—of those systems and agencies to which influence in conserving the interests of freedom, in quickening humane and philanthropic enterprises, and in fostering all those sentiments by the prevalence of which the peace and order of society are mainly upheld, this country is much indebted for its rapid development and wonderful progress. Occupying a prominent place, therefore, in the classification of objects for that Exposition, is Group 95, comprehending the general subject of Religious Organizations and systems—a group which is subdivided into classes, as follows:

Class 941. Origin, nature, growth and extent of various religious systems and sects. Statistical and Historical Facts.

Class 942. Religious Orders and Societies, and their objects.

Class 943. Societies and Organizations for the propagation of system of religion by missionary effort.

Class 944. Spreading the knowledge of religious systems by publications—a class designed to include such publications as those of the Bible and Tract Societies, together with statistics of their origin, growth and progress.

Class 945. Systems and methods of religious instruction and training for the young. Apparatus and appliances for teaching in the family; Sunday School furniture and apparatus, etc.

This classification is still subject to revision and enlargement.

Your Committee earnestly approve this feature of the contemplated Exposition.

The form which the National Celebration is to assume—an exhibition of the world's progress in civilization, rather than a mere military display, or an outpouring of national boastings and exultations over other nations, is itself encouraging as an indication of the growth of the true Christian doctrine touching the brotherhood of man. It is proper, not only in view of the essential service rendered by our religious to our civil institutions, but especially as presenting to the world the legitimate evidence of the prosperity and power of Free Churches, destitute of all State patronage and separate from all State control, relying on themselves, on the power of truth, and on the God whom they seek to serve, for all needed support; it is proper, we say, that these churches should have an opportunity to present, before the whole world, the facts of their history and the fruits of their labors. There could be no adequate exhibition of the forces at work in society in behalf of a true Christian civilization, were the churches excluded.

That we should take part in this exhibition and avail ourselves of this opportunity to make the world better acquainted with our history, and our aims, is the decided judgment of your committee. As citizens, we have a right to share in the joys of this grand Anniversary. As Christians, constituting one of the prominent religious forces of the country, it is proper that we fill our place, and desirable that we avail ourselves of this occasion to be known to the world.

Should the Convention be of the same judgment, and decide that our religious movement shall be fitly represented in Philadelphia, in the Centennial Exposition, we recommend—

1. The preparation of a suitable history of our reformatory movement, presenting its origin and growth, its designs and characteristics, accompanied with statistics of our schools, colleges, educational associations, missionary societies, orphan asylums, as well as of our numbers, value of church property, and all else that may be legitimately regarded as the fruits of our plea.

2. The preparation of several tracts on leading subjects, to be distributed gratuitously at the Exposition.

3. The selection of such works from our authors as have received general approbation, and will fairly represent our literature to the public.

4. That complete sets of our periodicals, from the *Christian Baptist* down to the latest of our journals, be obtained for the Exhibition.

5. That College Catalogues, Missionary Reports, and whatever will present our benevolent movements fairly to view, be also obtained. And we recommend that each college, missionary society, and benevolent agency recognized among us, prepare a brief statement of its rise, progress, endowment, etc., and furnish whatever may serve to illustrate and exhibit its character and its workings.

6. That the Sunday School interest be also represented in a suitable manner.

7. That in order to carry these recommendations into effect, a committee of seven be appointed, said committee to be empowered to make all needful arrangements for a faithful representation of our brotherhood at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia in 1876, reporting meanwhile to the Convention at its regular sessions, and subject to such action as may be had by the Convention on their reports when submitted.

ISAAC ERRETT,
N. J. AYLSWORTH,
A. B. CHAMBERLAIN,
JOHN C. TULLY,
Committee.

G. T. Carpenter, of Iowa, moved the adoption of the report supporting the same by some very interesting remarks, seconded by A. G. Lucas, of Illinois, and carried unanimously.

W. T. Moore, from Committee on Special Features, read report of committee.

Your Committee to whom was referred the matter of providing for special features of interest for our Twenty-fifth Anniversary, beg leave to report the following:

1. That the General Board be instructed to make a special effort during the year to raise a definite amount for church building fund.

2. That the Board make a special effort to make the next Anniversary the occasion of inaugurating such foreign mission or missions as may seem to be practicable.

3. That the Board provide such other measures as will contribute to the interest of that occasion.

W. T. MOORE,
ISAAC ERRETT,
THOMAS MUNNELL,
J. W. MCGARVEY,
L. L. CARPENTER.
Committee.

Motion to adopt elicited considerable discussion. Dr. L. L. Pinkerton thought there was a mistake about the true mission of the church—that its efforts should be confined more especially to this than to foreign countries.

A. I. Hobbs moved that so much of the report as refers to Church Extension Fund be stricken out.

Remarks, by Munnell, of Kentucky, Jewell, Gary and Denny, of Indiana, Moss, of Ohio, and Pinkerton, of Kentucky.

Motion to strike out lost, and report unanimously adopted.

B. A. Hinsdale submitted report of the Committee on Freedmen as follows:

The committee to which was referred that part of the report of the Board which relates to the Freedmen, beg leave to report that it has considered the subject as fully as the circumstances would permit, and it respectfully proposes the following resolutions as expressive of the sense of the Convention:

1. That recent movements in the South, especially in Mississippi and Texas, should inspire fresh hope in the hearts of the brethren in relation to the evangelization of the Freedmen, and that it also imposes upon them fresh responsibilities, faithlessness to which would be moral recreancy.

2. That intelligent action requires fuller knowledge of the literature than the brethren now have in their possession; that the Corresponding Secretary be instructed to go to Mississippi and such other promising fields as consistant, as soon as his other duties will permit, for the purpose of obtaining such information; that he inquire concerning the intelligence, general and scriptural, of our colored brethren, their pecuniary ability, the competency of their preachers, the tone of their worship and kindred topics; that he submit to the Board an elaborate report of his observations and conclusions based thereon, and that such report be published in our papers for the information of the brethren, and that in case the Corresponding Secretary can not go, the Board be instructed to send some competent person to perform this duty.

3. That the general managers of the work among the Freedmen be submitted to the wisdom of the Board, but that it be instructed to pay particular attention to the following points:

1. The promotion of general education among the Freedmen.

2. The preparation of colored preachers.

3. The necessity of providing some man of proper qualifications to take general direction of the work in Mississippi.

4. The general furtherance of the work of evangelization among the Freedmen.

B. A. HINSDALE,
W. C. HOLTON,
G. T. CARPENTER,
G. J. ELLIS,
Committee.

The report was unanimously adopted.

J. S. Sweeney, Chairman of Committee on Nomination of Officers.

Your committee on nomination of officers feeling a happy relief because of the general understanding that it is the perfect liberty of any member of the Convention to add any name to the list of nominees, and hoping that any one so disposed will not feel restrained by any consideraations of courtesy toward this committee, beg leave to submit the following:

President—R. M. Bishop.

Vice Presidents—Isaac Errett, R. Milligan, W. K. Pendleton.

Corresponding Secretary—Thomas Munnell.

Recording Secretaries—D. W. Chase, J. W. McGarvey, F. M. Green.

Treasurer—W. S. Dickinson.

Auditor—B. W. Wasson.

Board of Managers—A. I. Hobbs, M. H. Slosson, W. S. Dickinson, B. W. Wasson, H. S. Bosworth, W. H. Hopson, R. R. Sloan, W. H. Lape, O. A. Burgess.

Respectfully submitted.

J. S. SWEENEY,
A. E. MYERS,
WM. ROWZEE,
N. S. BASTION,
J. C. IRVIN,

W. K. Pendleton moved the report of the committee be laid on the table and made the special order at 3 o'clock P. M.

W. J. Lanham moved a reconsideration of the vote providing for elections by ballot. After some discussion by Sweeney, of Ky., Hobbs, of Ohio and Goodwin, of Kentucky. A motion to lay on the table, by A. I. Hobbs, was carried.

Dr. W. H. Hopson announced that a member of the church and a Life Director of the Convention, who wished his name withheld, had donated eighty acres of land in Audrain County, Missouri, for the benefit of the Bible School at Louisville. The announcement was received with applause.

W. F. Black, from Committee on Order of Business, reported, recommending that such time as may not be occupied in business be taken in short speeches at the call of the President, till 4½ o'clock P. M.

A motion to adjourn until 2 P. M. having prevailed, the Convention was dismissed by James Challen.

THIRD DAY.

Thursday, October 23—Second Session.

At 2 o'clock the Convention was called to order by President Bishop who read the 1st Psalm, followed by prayer by O. A. Burgess. Minutes of morning session read and approved.

The President appointed as the Centennial Committee:

Isaac Errett, Ohio; W. F. Black, Indiana; Robert Graham, Kentucky.; J. A. Garfield, Ohio; Enos Campbell, Missouri; A. I. Hobbs, Ohio; W. L. Hayden, Pennsylvania.

On motion of Isaac Errett, W. T. Moore, John. S. Sweeney and Dr. W. A. Belding were appointed a committee to prepare address and visit the next General Convention of Free-will Baptists, to be held in Providence, R. I.

W. K. Pendleton submitted report on German Mission:

Your Committee to which was referred the subject of German Missions, beg leave to report.

That this subject was first presented to the Convention, at its annual session, in the year 1871, at which time it was expected that the services of Prof. C. L. Loos of Bethany College, could be engaged as a missionary to Germany, and under this expectation subscriptions were made to the amount of $2,030 per year, for five successive years. But it was soon ascertained that the services of Prof. Loos could not be secured, and it was then proposed by the Corresponding Secretary, in harmony with a resolution of their Convention, to ask the subscribers to the German Mission to pay in one-fourth of their subscriptions to be used by the Board in the circulations of tracts in Germany and in the German language. A few of the subscribers responded favorably, and about fifty dollars was paid into the treasury. This sum being inadequate to the end proposed, and for other reasons, the scheme of circulating tracts was abandoned.

It was then proposed that the subscribers should be asked to allow their subscriptions to be transferred to support a missionary work among the Freedmen, but the proposition has met with but little encouragement, and nothing in this direction has been done. As it is the pleasure

of the Convention to contiuue this committee with a view to a more extended report on the subject of a German Mission at its next annual meeting, your committee contents itself for the present, with the statement of these facts, and beg leave to sit again.

W. K. PENDEETON,
W. T. MOORE,
W. A. BELDING,
Committee.

Which was unanimously adopted.

William Brooks, (colored) preacher from Alabama, was introduced by the President, and addressed the Convention on the condition and wants of his people.

Geo. Owen, missionary to the Freedman of Mississippi, gave an interesting account of his labors and the progress made with the work committed to his hands.

The special order being called for, the Convention proceeded to the election of officers by ballot. B. A. Hinsdale, L. L. Carpenter and J. C Tully, were appointed tellers.

The result was the election of the ticket as reported by the Committee on nominations.

R. R. Sloan presented the report of the Board to whom was referred the report of the committee on distribution of funds.

The Board of Managers having considered the proposed change of Constitution as set forth in report of Committee on Distribution of Funds, hereby recommend its adoption.

A. I. HOBBS, Chairman.

W. K. Pendleton spoke at considerable length in favor of the proposed amendment to the Constitution. He said the amendment contemplated no change in the old order of things, but would make additional provisions for procuring funds.

J. J. Moss said he was in favor of the amendment, but thought the old plan would have been sufficient for several years longer.

R. R. Sloan and Thomas Munnell spoke in favor of the amendment.

The amendment was then voted on and adopted. It is as follows:

"It shall be the duty of the Corresponding Secretaries of the General Board, the State Boards and District Boards, respectively, and of such other agents as the General Board may employ, to procure special contri-

butions under the direction of the General Board, and used by it for the missionary work committed to their management."

Mr. Alexander Clark, of Pittsburg, editor of the *Methodist Recorder*, was introduced to the Convention, and received standing. He made a few brief remarks expressive of the friendly relations between the church to which he belongs and that represented by the Convention. Dr. Thomas Lynch, of Indianapolis, was also introduced, and made a few remarks.

The following resolution introduced by J. S. Sweeney was unanimously adopted:

"*Resolved*, That the thanks of the Convention are due and hereby tendered to the brethren and citizens of Indianapolis for the kind and hospitable manner in which we have been entertained during our sessions; to the various railroad companies that have extended the courtesy of reduced fare to our delegates, and to newspaper reporters for courteous notices and publication of proceedings, and furnishing free copies of daily papers."

Short speeches were made at the call of the President, by A. B. Chamberlain, of New York, Ira J. Chase, of Illinois, G. J. Ellis, of Michigan, and the song "Heavenly Mansions," was sung by L. H. Jameson, the audience rising and joining in the chorus.

A motion to adjourn was then passed and the Convention was dismissed by David Walk, of Tennessee.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23—EVENING SESSION.

Social exercises from 7 to 7½ o'clock, led by L. H. Jameson, of Indiana.

At 7½ o'clock Vice President Pendleton, introduced F. M. Bruner, President Oskaloosa College, Oskaloosa, Iowa, who addressed the Convention. Subject—"The Excellencies of the Religion of the Bible; its objects, its agencies, and its aims." At the conclusion of the address the Convention joined in singing Hymn No. 1285 of Christian Hymn Book.

Minutes read and approved.

Adjourned to meet in Cincinnati, Tuesday after third Lord's day in October, 1874, at 2 o'clock P. M.

Benediction, by J. M. Atwater, of Massachusetts.

R. M. BISHOP, *President.*

D. W. CHASE,
J. W. MCGARVEY,
F. M. GREEN,
Secretaries.

REPORT OF RECORDING SECRETARY.

CASH RECEIPTS.

J. C. Irvin, (German Mission)	$6 25
Mrs. B. F. Weed	5 00
A. N. Haskin	5 00
Ohio State Treasury	£72 88
R. Moffett, for Jamaica	1 00
P. Whitmer	10 00
A. E. Myers	12 50
G. B. Woodworth	2 50
J. H. Dodd	6 25
J. T. Jones	6 25
Michigan State Treasury	37 58
F. M. Kibbey, (Ger. Mission)	5 00
Church, at Terre-Haute, Ind.	10 00
Missouri State Treasury	147 10
R. R. Sloan, (German Mission)	5 00
Mrs. B. F. Weed	5 00
A. N. Haskin	5 00
Mrs. J. A. Hatfield	3 00
T. D. Butler, (German Mission)	5 00
Church at Weston, Ill. Mission	3 10
Indiana State Treasury	150 00
Pennsylvania State Treasury	50 00
Ohio State Treasury	224 10
Unknown	2 00
Unknown, for Superanuated Preachers	1 00
Indiana State Treasury	130 00
Ohio State Treasury	343 67
Ohio State Treas. bal on note	60 00
Ohio State Treasury	170 00
Church at Wilmington, Kansas	1 70
Indiana State Treasury	220 00
Church at Macedonia, Ky	50 00
Dividend from Ohio Life and Trust Company	111 62
Ohio State Treasury	118 95
Estate, Lucy A. Hahn, (Bequest)	500 00
Pennsylvania State Treasury	50 00
R. Moffett	1 00
Ovid Butler	50 00
Henry Jameson	5 00
Church at Hopkinsville, Ky.	31 85
William Mitchell	25 00
Church at Ravenna, Ohio	20 00
Church at Springfield, Ill	25 00
Church at Ravenna, Ohio	5 00
Church at Warrensburg, Mo.	25 00
Church at Washington	32 00
A. C. Haney	5 00
Danbury, Conn	14 25
Mrs. Hill, Mt. Healthy, O.	5 00
Church at East Smithfield, Pa.	10 00
G. F. Hillman, Harrison, O.	5 00
Church at Republic, Ohio	4 50
Church at Island, Iowa	2 50
J. Laws	5 00
Mrs. Mary Hubbell	5 00
Church at Holden, Mo.	3 45
Church at Frankfort, Ky	20 00
Church at Eldora. Iowa	10 00
Church at Bethel, Ill	13 90
Son Paul	1 00
Church at Lanark, Ill	6 50
Church at Brewerton, N. Y.	1 25
Church at Elkton, Ky.	6 05
Unknown, (Morris Bead)	50 00
Church at Bedford, Ohio	17 20
Church at Scio, N. Y	75
C. C. Foote	5 00
Church at Knoxville, Ill	10 00
Church at Butler, O	4 00
Church at Brownsburg, Ind.	14 05
Church at Princeton, Ill	18 75
Church at Le Roy, Pa	10 00
Church at Washington, Pa	3 50
Henderson Gaylord	100 00
Rush Co., Indiana, Meeting	83 90
Church at Millburn, Ill	7 35
Church at Mt. Healthy, Ohio	8 45
R. Waldorf, Nelson, Portage county, O	2 00
William Parker, Farmington, O	10 00
Church at Warren, O	10 00
J. Douthitt, Jackson, Mis.	3 00
J. C. Irvin, Bowersville, O.	2 00
Church at Du Quein, Ill.	6 00
Church at Long Grove	12 00
H. D. Clark	5 00
G. W. Camp	10 00
Church at Valley, Iowa	2 60
Church at South Butler	25 00
Church at Paris, Mo.	7 20
Collect's in Iowa, E. J. Stanley	6 80
Church at Bedford, Ind	6 00
Church at Chagrin Falls	10 00

Ovid Butler	100	00
P. E. Bacon	1	00
Church at Union, Minnesota	4	50
Church at New Salem, O	3	50
Sunday school at New Salem, O	1	93
Church at Prairie Bird, Ill	5	00
Church at Pompey, N. Y	13	30
Church at Pine Flat, Penn	10	11
Wm. Polly	1	00
Church at Tully, N. Y	6	00
Church at Mentor, Ohio	18	50
W. T. Withers, Lexington, Ky	50	00
Louisa Brundage	3	00
A. Friend, Life Lake Mich., per I. Errett	1	50
Iowa	5,610	00
Missouri	5,738	66
Indiana	27,337	17
Illinois	6,000	00
Ohio	23,350	23
New York	1,268	60
Kentucky	10,007	00
Virginia	5,000	00
Pennsylvania	6,135	58
Georgia	207	00
Nebraska	390	50
Maryland and D. C	175	00
Books, Papers, etc	407	10
Perry Blankenship	5	00
Church at Ripley, O	8	00
Elmer E. E. J. Teagarden	5	00
Anna R. M. Teagarden	5	00
Elkhart City	10	50
Church on Walnut & 4th street, Louisville	50	00
Church at Coleta, Ill	3	00
G. W. Nance	1	00
A. S. Kibby	5	00
S. R. Willard	3	00
C. F. W. Haskin	5	00
S. R. Willard, for Jamaica	2	00
Pennsylvania State Trea'y	2	00
Indiana State Treasury	250	00
Collection at Indianapolis	50	65
Total	$95,928	16

Due Treasurer on Hymn Book account..... $966 86.

D. W. CHASE, *Rec. Sec.*

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Total amount received during the year		$95,928 16
Orders paid,		
829. Balance, Expense account for 1872	$112 63	
843. Thomas Munnell on Salary	635 53	
845. Thomas Munnell, Salary	1,402 57	
845. Geo. Owen and Levin Wood, Mississippi Mission	54 17	
846. Geo. Owen and Levin Wood, Mississippi Mission	77 21	
847. Thomas Munnell, balance Salary	461 90	
848. Expense account of Corresponding Secretary	171 30	
849. Geo. Owen and Levin Wood, Mississippi Mission	50 00	
850. Expense account of Corresponding Secretary	262 52	
851. Blanks, Postage and Printing Minutes	412 04	
852. George Owen Mississippi Mission	83 33	
853. Levin Wood, Mississippi Mission	24 16	
854. Publication of Notice to change name of Society	3 90	
865 to 867. Orders to State Conventions as per Recording Secretary's Report	91,769 32	
868. Expense account of Corresponding Secretary	30 45	
869. William Brooks, Missionary, Alabama	50 65	
		$95,676 68.
Balance in Treasury.	$251 48.	

W. S. DICKINSON, *Treasurer.*

AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATE.

I hereby certify to having examined the books and accounts of the Recording Secretary and Treasurer of the General Christian Missionary Convention, as exhibited to me, and found them correct as above set forth.

B. W. WASSON, Auditor.